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Marginal Column By GEORGE LICHTHEIM

A RUMOUR current in London over the week-end that Egypt's associates in the Arab League are to be approached separately or collectively with offers to join the Middle Eastern Command was unofficially denied in London yesterday. The suggestion seems to have emanated from Washington, where it is now considered good policy to by-pass Britain and France in an effort to make contact with Arab statesmen. Little publicity is given in London to Mr. Acheson's television appeal to Egypt to be reasonable and his description of the American record as "good and clean," but its implications are not being overlooked and a certain amount of teeth-grinding is audible in Conservative quarters.

BY way of retaliation "The Times" in an editorial admonishes the Americans for not realizing that "in the eyes of the Arabs and Egyptians, the creation of Israel was an act of aggression condoned and even supported by the Western Powers." But the writer's general conclusion is that the Western Powers must stand firm and "make it plain that they will not be dislodged from the Middle East and North Africa" — a valuable admission to the French who have been worried by some of General Eisenhower's recent utterances on the subject of Arab grievances.

ELSEWHERE uncertainty is expressed though still in muffled tones about the reliability of Jordan. It is no secret that the Amman government is lending an ear to Egyptian offers to replace the subsidy now received from Britain on condition that Jordan terminates its treaty with Britain, and the pressure exercised upon Nuri Pasha to "nationalize" Iraq's oil is also giving cause for concern. The rumours about the Western approach to Arab League members, despite the rebuttal suffered in Egypt, suggested that the Middle Eastern Command headquarters, falling Egyptian cooperation might be located either in Cyprus or in Ankara. It is, however, still hoped in London that King Farouk will yet cause the Wafd Government to change its mind.

ONLY if this manoeuvre fails, is Israel to be approached. There is some talk of making Turkey and Pakistan the two main pillars of the Middle Eastern Command, but it is realized that at least some technical agreement must be made with Egypt. The "Observer" has suggested editorially that Britain should acquire the Suez Canal Zone, turn it into an extrajurisdictional area and, for the rest, release Egypt from all contractual obligations. How Egyptian consent is to be obtained for this transaction remains obscure. Possibly it is thought that promises of American financial aid might do the trick.

THERE is some concern over Turkey's manifest unwillingness to place her forces unreservedly at the Middle Eastern Command's disposal. It is thought that SACME (Supreme Allied Command Middle East) will come under the NATO Military Standing Group in Washington rather than under SHAPE in Paris. The Turks would clearly prefer to be directly under Eisenhower, but on this issue the Americans are likely to defer to British wishes especially if Mr. Churchill heads the next government.

London, October 23

U.S. Atom Explosion Set Off in Nevada

LAS VEGAS, Monday (UP). — The seventh atomic explosion in the U.S. rocked the desert early this morning, marking the start of the second series of atomic tests at the Frenchman's Flat proving ground in Nevada.

However, no blinding flash in the sky was visible here, some 90 miles south of the proving ground, no rumbling noise was heard, and no shock waves felt. During the five tests held at Frenchman's Flat in January and February this year, all nuclear blasts were visible for hundreds of miles in all directions, and Las Vegas residents felt distinct shock waves after each blast.

Asked why the bomb blast was not visible here, Atomic Energy Commission spokesman said "it was apparently too small." They said no troops were involved in today's experiment.

British Tighten Suez Zone Grip

CAIRO, Monday. — The British navy yesterday took over control of shipping in the Suez harbour, a British military spokesman said today. Reports from London meanwhile added that the Royal Air Force has mobilized the biggest airborne operation outside Korea tonight to post 3,000 seasoned soldiers into the tense Suez Canal zone direct from Britain.

Meanwhile, Egypt accused Britain of "provoked and provocative aggression" today. The Egyptian Foreign Ministry released the text of Egypt's second protest note to Britain, which charged that British soldiers fired three Egyptian troops on Saturday, killing one and wounding another.

There were no incidents reported from the Suez Canal zone during the day, according to statements issued both by a British military spokesman and a representative of the Egyptian Ministry of the Interior.

Near the port of Suez, British troops seized four railway stations to load backlogged military supplies which Egyptian workmen refused to handle. However, the British soldiers evacuated all four stations after loading the required equipment, which was sent off to Ismailia.

Map showing the Suez Canal zone and surrounding areas.

Police Quell Sudan Student Outbreaks

LONDON, Monday. — Sudan government officers in London announced today that police used tear gas on Saturday to break up the first anti-British demonstration in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan when they dispersed 3,000 students in Khartoum.

The announcement said a small number of students were injured slightly in the student parade through the streets. No other incidents were reported, it said.

Sudan's Constituent Commission today called the U.N. with a request that an international commission be sent to rule Sudan until its future was decided, AP reported, quoting reliable sources. The commission was appointed by the Governor-General to draft plans for self-government.

Reports from Sudan today indicated increased unrest, and agitation by Communists urging the Sudanese to revolt against both the British and Egyptians. The pro-Communist "Sudanese Movement for National Liberation" packed mail-boxes in Khartoum and other cities with leaflets urging the people to seize their independence while Britain and Egypt were engaged in a dispute.

In Cairo, the Egyptian government decided to close down the Sudan Agency and send the Agent-General, Mr. E.C. Haselden, back to Khartoum. However, Mr. Haselden told AP today that he had heard of no move to oust him, declining further comment.

(AP, UP)

Massive Air Bridge

The Air Ministry announced in London today that four-engine Hastings transport planes will in the "near future" sweep the whole 19th Infantry Brigade of 3,000 across 3,500 air miles from Britain to the Suez. The disclosure followed an earlier announcement that two squadrons of light aircraft, trained to fight on ground troops, were flown from Britain to the Canal zone in a test for the massive air bridge.

Two light anti-aircraft regiments arrived at Port Said yesterday, following the two light anti-aircraft squadrons which arrived earlier on Saturday.

Five people were injured in Cairo last night when the police broke up a recruiting drive for the "Struggle Squads." Several arrests were made. The campaign for these squads to harass the British is sponsored by "Al Ibrahima," organ of the extreme right-wing nationalist socialist party led by Ahmed Hussein. The latter has been in prison for six weeks for inciting revolution.

A British military spokesman said here last night that the Egyptian sentry shot dead in a camp in Port Said yesterday was presumably killed by a fellow-soldier.

Soldiers Wounded

The Egyptian protest note, however, in mentioning this incident, said British soldiers fired three times from a truck, attempting to force their way into an Egyptian army camp. An Egyptian sentry, the note said, was wounded and later died in hospital. A second soldier, according to the note, was wounded when British soldiers opened fire at the barracks of an Egyptian army anti-aircraft battery.

The British navy was controlling the movement of shipping in the Suez area, but this control applied only to vessels carrying supplies destined for the British army. It did not extend to shipping through the Canal.

Troops of the 1st Battalion of the Cheshire Regiment, which arrived from Cyprus to reinforce British forces in the Canal zone, were met by a contingent of the Egyptian army. They carried some 270 women and children, families of servicemen in Egypt. They were returned to Egypt because of the situation in the Canal zone.

Yesterday, 25,000 university students in Cairo took part in a demonstration to demand the withdrawal of British troops from the Canal zone. The demonstration was peaceful, but it was reported that some 200 students were injured and 100 arrested.

The Egyptian Minister of Health today announced that 10 British soldiers had been ordered to give priority in employment to Egyptians who have left their posts with the British troops.

(AP, Reuter, UP)

Ten Soldiers Dead in Malaya

KUALA LUMPUR, Monday. (AP) — Ten members of the Royal West Kent Regiment were killed and twelve wounded at Batu Arang, eight miles north of the Federal capital, today in one of the biggest battles of the anti-terrorist war.

In their attack today, the Communists were believed to have opened a new phase of their offensive to drive the Government security units tracking down the killers of Sir Henry Gurney.

Kibbutz Merger Meeting

TIBERIA, Monday. — Ten thousand veteran and novice settlers and well-wishers are gathered in the Jordan Valley to found "Yehud Hakvutzot Vekibbutzim."

The conference, called to consummate unification negotiations between Haver Hakvutzot and Yehud Hakvutzot, made up of pre-Mapai settlements which recently broke away from the Mapai-dominated Kibbutz Hameuhad, got underway last night in the amphitheatre near Zemarom on the shores of Lake Kinneret.

A Sincere Torah spirit prevailed last night, as "Unity Torches" borne from Kfar Gileadi in uppermost Galilee were brought to the state, which resounded with choristers from many settlements. Thunderous applause greeted the Prime Minister as he took his seat in the audience next to Dr. Dov Joseph, Mr. Joseph Sprinzak, Mrs. Golda Myerson, Mr. Eliezer Kaplan and Mr. Behor Shitreet.

Baratz Welcomes
Veteran Jordan Valley settlers Joseph Baratz, one of the founders of Degania, of Kinneret, welcomed the delegates to "our territory."

Mr. Arieq Bahir of Ashdod opened the conference. Mr. Yehuda Sharret produced and directed a performance of "The Rise from Misery," a peasant whose cast included members of Kfar Blum, Kfar Haneel, Ramat Yehannan,

Jordan Approached To Supply Gaza

CAIRO, Monday (Reuter). — The Foreign Minister, Dr. Salah e-Din, will head the Egyptian delegation to the U.N. General Assembly, which is due to meet in Paris on November 6.

Salah e-Din has denied Egypt is planning to raise the Anglo-Egyptian dispute in the Security Council.

Persians Planning Compensation Talk

TEHRAN, Monday (Reuter). — The Persian Finance Ministry has asked Mr. Richard Seddon, Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's chief representative here, to attend talks on compensation for the nationalized Persian oil industry, usually reliable sources said today.

Mossadeq Willing To Sell Britain Oil

PHILADELPHIA, Monday (UP). — Iran's Premier Mohammed Mossadeq said today that Iran was willing to negotiate the sale of its oil if Britain sincerely recognizes Iranian oil nationalization.

The Premier told the audience at an official city luncheon that Iran is now prepared "to give every technical assurance of the industry's efficient operation... and thus of an uninterrupted supply of oil and its products."

"We wish to remain friends with the British people on a footing of mutually beneficial commercial relations within a framework of cooperation," he said.

Premier Mossadeq came here on the first leg of a trip to Washington, where he will open a series of top-level talks with U.S. government officials starting with a luncheon at the White House with President Truman tomorrow.

'Al Misi' Charges Gaza Strip Attack

CAIRO, Monday (Reuter). — The leading Wafd newspaper, "Al-Misi," yesterday accused Israeli forces of attacking orange groves on the eastern fringes of the Gaza Strip on Saturday and with machine guns, grenades, incendiary bombs and land mines, wrecking a water-pumping station, dairy, ice factory and other installations.

Alleging that several were injured in the ruined houses, the Egyptian paper maintained that blood-stained Israeli footprints were found in the area after the withdrawal of the Israeli forces under Arab fire.

Damage was estimated at \$25,000 by the paper, which added that Armistice Commission officers were investigating "this new Israeli violation."

(An Israeli military spokesman in Tel Aviv had no knowledge of the alleged attack.)

"Falastin," the Old City daily, reports the return on Saturday of an Israeli-Jordan MAC inquiry group from Kalkila, site of an alleged Israeli attack on a Jordan pumping station. UN observers are reported to have accompanied the committee.

The entire case, together with the committee's report, will be taken up today's regular MAC meeting in Jerusalem, the paper said.

All-Stars Top Hapoel In Final Game

HAIFA, Monday. — The American "All-Star" soccer team won their first victory in Israel here today beating a reinforced "Hapoel" Halifa team 2:1 after a half-time score of 1:0. This was the final match of their Israeli tour. They had lost their first two matches to "Hapoel" Tel Aviv and "Maccabi" Tel Aviv, respectively. Today's match was watched by 4,000 spectators.

The first goal was scored in the 18th minute of the first half by Decker, the U.S. centre forward, from close range. The visitors continued to attack, but good work on the part of Hodorov, the "Hapoel" goalie, prevented them from scoring.

Immediately at the start of the second-half, however, Gomlin, the visitors' outside left, rushed through to score. The "Hapoel" team then pressed the attack and Decker, the outside right, scored the home side's only goal in the 58th minute.

The four members of the "Hapoel" team from outside Haifa were Hodorov and A. Blutt (Tel Aviv), Gorias (Ramat Gan) and Memo (Gamat Gan).

The "All-Star" team will be tendered a dinner by "Hapoel" in Tel Aviv on Wednesday evening. They are due to leave via El Al on Thursday.

Shapir Pelek Yitz had 0-0 against Hapoel last week in their French tour.

After Midnight

The order Liverpool called from Valparaiso last night, ready to transport, if necessary, "Finn" Robinson, Commander of the ship, to Haifa.

Full Score Truce Talks To Begin at Panmunjom

FINAL AGREEMENT SIGNED

TOKYO, Monday (Reuter). — U.N. and Communist liaison officers today signed their final agreement on security arrangements for the resumption of full-scale Korean armistice talks. The main truce delegations were expected to meet in a tent at Panmunjom within the next 48 hours to take up the talks where they left them off two months ago.

Chief U.N. liaison officer Colonel Andrew Kinney said the time of the full meeting would be fixed later today. He said he would get in touch with senior Communist liaison officer Colonel Chang Chun "later today" — presumably by radio telephone.

The agreement was signed at a 60-minute session this morning.

Eight-Point Agreement

TOKYO, Monday (Reuter). — The eight-point agreement between the U.N. and Communist liaison officers today were given by General Ridgway's headquarters as follows:

- The site at which the conference will be resumed is in the vicinity of Panmunjom.
- The conference site area is circular, having a radius of one thousand yards (914 meters) centered on the conference site.
- No hostile acts of any kind shall be carried out by any armed force of either side including all regular and irregular units and armed individuals of ground, naval and air forces, against the conference area as defined above.
- Except for the military police provided for below, no armed personnel of either side shall be permitted in the conference area. Designated officers of both sides shall be jointly responsible for the security and preservation of order within the area.
- Each side shall provide a military police detachment of two of its own troops to assist in the performance of these duties while the delegation parties are present in the area. Except for this installation each delegation will provide its own facilities.
- The military police shall carry only small arms, namely pistols, rifles and carbines.
- Both delegations and their parties shall have free access to and free movement within the conference area. The composition of each delegation party shall be determined by the senior delegate.
- Physical facilities and communication and administrative arrangements with respect to negotiations and the conference area will be as agreed upon by liaison officers of both sides.
- The U.N. and the Korean People's Army and Chinese People's volunteers will be responsible for providing a suitable joint facility for use as the meeting place and for arrangements within the conference room. Except for this installation each delegation will provide its own facilities.
- All armed forces of both sides, including regular and irregular units and armed individuals of ground, naval and air forces, shall refrain from hostile acts of any kind against a circular area having a radius of three miles (4.8 km) centered on the traffic circle of Kaesong against the camp area of the U.N. Command delegation contained within the circle having a radius of three miles centre as indicated on the attached map and against an area of 100 meters to either side of the Kaesong-Panmunjom-Munman road.
- Date and time for resumption of the conference will be determined by agreement between liaison officers of both sides.

Berlin Reprisals Put to U.S.

BERLIN, Monday (Reuter). — Major-General Lemuel Mathewson, U.S. Commandant in Berlin, announced today that British and French authorities here would back any American counter-measures to the "illegal" occupation of Steinbocken.

Steinbocken, a small West Berlin enclave separated from West Berlin proper by about 1,500 metres of Soviet Zone territory, was occupied by East German People's Police last Thursday. Their blitz included caught German and Allied authorities in West Berlin by surprise.

General Mathewson told U.S. newsmen that the Allied Commanders agreed that the Soviet Zone authorities have no right to take over Steinbocken. "It is necessary to adopt counter-measures and show them we are not prepared to accept the procedure," he said. "I hope the final decision can be announced within the next few days."

Proposals for counter-measures discussed here two days ago between General Mathewson and the West Berlin Mayor, Professor Ernst Reuter, are being studied by the U.S. High Commission in Germany and the State Department in Washington, it was understood.

These might include a temporary collection of the large building of Radio Berlin, the Communist-controlled broadcasting station which is located in the Soviet sector. There are also several other East German islands in West Berlin which might be seized as reprisals.

29 Violent 'Quakes' Rock Formosa

TAIPEI, Monday (UP). — The island of Formosa was rocked by 29 violent earthquakes in 16 hours today. Transport and communication were paralysed along a 100-mile stretch of the east coast.

First reports gave several hundred persons killed in towns near Taipei, but government officials feared the final toll may exceed 1,000. The quakes began at dawn, and the Taipei observatory recorded a total of 150 tremors, but only 29 of them were strong enough to be felt.

The violence of the quakes ranged from first to sixth class.

The North Atlantic Treaty Council of Deputies today signed the protocol admitting Greece and Turkey to full membership in the pact. The protocol will next be sent to the parliaments of the 12 NATO countries to be ratified. It will not come into force until each of the 12 parties has notified the U.S. of its acceptance.

The protocol states that the North Atlantic Treaty powers will consider an attack on Turkey to be an attack on all of them. The existing treaty had to be changed because the greater part of Turkey lies in Asia, and the treaty was previously confined to Europe.

Senators Move to Revise U.S. Entry Laws

WASHINGTON, Monday (Reuter). — Fifteen Senators are proposing to change the U.S. immigration quota system and wipe out what they consider discriminations based on race and sex. A bill to this effect was introduced in the Senate on Friday.

Senator Herbert H. Lehman (Democrat, New York) told the Senate that it was the product of long study and discussions with more than 50 religious and other groups interested in the problem.

Slap Discrimination
The bill, he said, would strike out the unworkable discrimination based on race which now bars persons of certain oriental races from admission as immigrants into the U.S. under any circumstances.

It would also remove the archaic discrimination based on sex, as preference for entry into the U.S. is now given to wives of American men but not to the alien husbands of American women.

The bill would further make it possible for unfilled portions of quotas allotted to some countries to be spread among countries which have no quotas, thus benefiting people from Southern and Eastern Europe.

Barriers to entry would be removed for persons of Communist and Fascist who could prove that they were new devoted to "democratic principles" and for those who joined Communist and Fascist organizations before they were 14 years old and later dropped out.

100 Killed in 3-Day Storm

ROME, Monday (Reuter). — More than 100 people died in the worst storm in the central Mediterranean area for 30 years it was revealed here yesterday as first detailed reports came in from South Italy, Sicily and Sardinia.

They told of thousands of towns and villages devastated by five days of rain, gales and floods in which at least half a million people have lost their homes.

The rain stopped yesterday, the winds abated and the floods began slowly receding. But it will take months to estimate the full damage.

President Luigi Einaudi and government ministers toured the stricken areas distributing food, clothing and blankets.

Woman Wounded By Shots from Jordan

Mrs. Hanna Orlowsky, 49, was shot in Rehov Shmuel Hanavi in Jerusalem yesterday evening by a bullet fired from the direction of the Jordan border. She was taken to Hadassah Hospital in serious condition by a Magen David Adam ambulance.

Mrs. Orlowsky was visiting friends in Rehov Shmuel Hanavi when two shots, fired by automatic weapons from the direction of the former Police Training School in the Shakh Jarah Quarter, entered the room in which she was sitting. One bullet pierced her back and came through her chest. She was reported to be in serious condition late last night.

Sharet Returning

The Foreign Minister, Mr. Moshe Sharet, is scheduled to arrive via El Al at Lod Airport tomorrow morning.

